Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 06022 292357Z

60
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 292225Z OCT 74
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8486
USDEL MBFR VIENNA

S E C R E T USNATO 6022

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: ASPECTS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

1. COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN BRIEFED THE NAC ON OCTOBER 29 CONCERNING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW OCTOBER 23-27.

2. SONNENFELDT IN HIS INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT, INFORMED THE NAC THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO MAJOR DISCUSSION ON MBFR BECAUSE, AFTER TWO DAYS OF OTHER DISCUSSION, THE US WAS ANXIOUS TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS ON SALT.

3. LATER IN HIS STATEMENT, WHILE SPEAKING OF SALT, SONNENFELDT SAID THAT FOR SOME REASON THE SOVIETS MADE LETTLE REFERENCE THIS TIME TO THE FBS ISSUE. THERE WAS SOME REFERENCE, BUT BY COMPARISON TO THE MARCH MEETING, WHEN BREXHNEV WENT INTO IT IN GREAT DETAIL, THE DISCUSSION WAS ALMOST PERFUNCTORY THIS TIME.
PANSA (ACTING SYG),
AT CONCLUSION OF SONNENFELDT'S INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT ASKED IF HE HAD ANY INTERPRETATION OF THE SOVIETS' REDUCED EMPHASIS ON FBS. SONNENFELDT REPLIED THAT HE HESITATED TO STATE FIRM CONCLUSION. IT MUST BE CLEAR TO THE RUSSIANS THAT IF THERE IS TO BE A SALT AGREEMENT, THERE WILL BE NO US AGREEMENT TO REDUCTION OF FBS IN THIS CONTEXT. REGARDING THE OTHER SOVIET APPROACH--COMPENSATION IN CENTRAL SYSTENS -- THEY KNOW THE US TO BE VERY RELUCTANT. PERHAPS THERE IS A MORE REALISTIC SOVIET ASSESSMENT
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 06022 292357Z

OF WHAT IT WILL TAKE TO GET AN AGREEMENT. PANSA OBSERVED THAT PERHAPS THE SOVIETS WANT TO SIGNAL THAT THEY PREFER TO DISCUSS FBS IN THE CONTEXT OF MBFR.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

4. THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ASKED WHETHER THE SOVIETS HAD RAISED A POSSIBLE CSCE/MBFR LINKAGE DURING THE MOSCOW TALKS, TO WHICH SONNENFELDT RESPONDED THAT THIS SUBJECT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED. MCAULIFFE.

SECRET

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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